

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 SAJ-01 MMS-01 /087 W

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R 152059Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1770

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 0303

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, RO, SHUM

SUBJ: RELEASE OF CLODOMIRO ALMEYDA TO ROMANIA

REF: SANTIAGO 0217

1. ROMANIAN CHARGE TOLD EMBOFF JAN 14 THAT GOR AS LONG AGO AS DEC 1973 HAD INFORMED GOC OF IT WILLINGNESS TO RECEIVE EX-FONMIN ALMEYDA SHOULD GOC DECIDE TO RELEASE HIM. OFFER WAS MADE SUBSEQUENTLY TO PRESIDENT PINOCHET, MOST RECENTLY ON DEC 31, 1974, AT YEAR-END DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION, ALSO TO FOREIGN AND INTERIOR MINISTERS, AND EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ALL OF SENIOR PERSONS DETAINED AT RITOQUE CAMP AND SOME SPECIFICALLY LISTED DETAINEES OF LESSER IMPORTANCE.

2. INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTEDLY CALLED ROMANIAN AMB AFTER-NOON JAN 9 WITH OFFER TO RELEASE ALMEYDA AND OTHER FOUR TO DEPART JAN 11, AFTER JAN 10 PUBLIC STATEMENT. CHARGE SAID NO CONDITIONS HAD BEEN LAID DOWN AND THAT ALMEYDA AND OTHERS WERE FREE TO STAY IN ROMANIA OR LEAVE, AS THEY  
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DESIRED. HE SPECULATED THAT GOC HAD CHOSEN ROMANIA BE-

CAUSE GOR HAD NEVER TRIED TO PRESSURE GOC ON DETAINEES.  
ADDED THAT RELEASED PERSONS ALL APPEARED IN GOOD HEALTH,  
EXCEPT THAT ONE OF LESS IMPORTANTONE HAD SOME PHYSICAL  
PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH HIS AGE.

3. CHARGE STRONGLY DISCOUNTED POSSIBILITY THAT ALMEYDA  
WOULD BECOME HEAD OF CHILEAN GOVT IN EXCILE. CHARGE SAID  
HE HAD FOUND FROM HIS TALKS WITH MEMBERS OF CHILEAN LEFT  
THAT THEY WERE DISUNITED AS EVER, IN GENERAL, BUT WERE  
ALMOST UNANIMOUS AGAINST ESTABLISHING GOVT IN EXILE. HE  
ADDED THAT SAME POINT HAD BEEN MADE BY CHILEAN EXILES WHO  
ATTENDED NOV 1974 MEETING OF ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY.

4. COMMENT. GOC DISLIKE OF MAKING CONCESSIONS UNDER  
PRESSURE COULD HAVE INCLINED IT TOWARD RELEASING ALMEYDA  
TO ROMANIA, PARTICULARLY SINCE RELEASE IN ANY EVENT WOULD  
PLEASE FRG. (SANTIAGO PRESS REPORTS THAT FRG HAS NOW ALLOWED  
DISBURSEMENT OF 21 MILLION MARK LOAN SUSPENDED AFTER MILITARY  
COUP.) GOC'S CHOICE OF ROMANIA CAN ALSO BE TAKEN AS FURTHER  
ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH IT, AND AS A DIG AT ROMANIA'S  
SOVIET AND CUBAN ALLIES.

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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